

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amended the claims as shown on the attached sheets.

1. (original) A process for purifying triethylenediamine (TEDA) by distillation, wherein the fractionation is carried out in a dividing wall column.
- 5 2. (original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a dividing wall column whose internal dividing wall continues down to the bottom so as to form separate chambers in the lower region of the column is used.
- 10 3. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the ratio of runback at the upper end of the dividing wall into the inflow and offtake sections of the column is regulated in the range from 1 : 1 to 1 : 5.
- 15 4. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the residence time in the bottom vaporizer is limited to from 1 to 15 minutes.
- 20 5. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the dividing wall column is operated at a pressure at the top of from about 0.5 to 5 bar.
- 25 6. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the feed point for the crude TEDA is positioned between the 5th and 30th theoretical plate and the side offtake for the pure TEDA is positioned between the 2nd and 20th theoretical plate.
7. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein the dividing wall is positioned centrally in the column between the bottom of the column and the 30th plate.